

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein the digital data file is selected from the group consisting of an audio file, a video file, a photographic file, a graphic file and a text file.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein in step b) a tangible good is provided to the user periodically.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the membership in the site is renewed periodically.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein a user acquiring the membership in the site is associated with a password that identifies the user and the site.

9. (Currently amended) A method of eliminating fraudulent charge-backs associated with memberships in a destination site on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

a) providing a membership in a destination site on a network to a user requesting the membership, wherein the user requests the membership by

    i) accessing an affiliate site on a network the affiliate site including a hyperlink to the destination site, and

    ii) accessing the destination site by activating the hyperlink,

b) shipping a tangible good associated with the membership in the destination site to the user,

c) creating a record of the shipment of the tangible good to the user

d) receiving a charge-back request from the user, the charge-back request comprising a reason for the charge-back request,

e) associating the charge-back request with the record of the shipment of the tangible good to the user,

f) examining the reason for the charge-back request,

g) determining that the reason for the charge-back request includes an assertion that the user did not request membership in the site, and

[[g]] h) denying the charge-back request when the reason includes an assertion that the user did not request membership in the site based on the determination in step g).

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the tangible good is a digital storage device.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the digital storage device is a CD-ROM.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the CD-ROM includes at least one digital data file.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the digital data file is selected from the group consisting of an audio file, a video file, a photographic file, a graphic file and a text file.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the CD-ROM includes a hyperlink to a third-party site or a network.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein in step b) a tangible good is provided to the user periodically.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the membership in the destination site is renewed periodically.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of providing a valuable consideration to the affiliate site after step b).

19-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) A method of eliminating fraudulent charge-backs associated with memberships in a site on a network, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a membership in a site on a network to a user requesting the membership, wherein the user requests the membership by activating a hyperlink on the network to access the site,
- b) shipping a tangible good associated with the membership in the site to the user,
- c) creating a record of the shipment of the tangible good to the user
- d) receiving a charge-back request from the user, the charge-back request comprising a reason for the charge-back request,
- e) associating the charge-back request with the record of the shipment of the tangible good to the user,
- f) examining the reason for the charge-back request,
- g) determining that the reason for the charge-back request includes an assertion that the user did not request membership in the site, and
- ~~[[g]] h) denying the charge-back request when the reason includes an assertion that the user did not request membership in the site based on the determination in step g).~~

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein a user acquiring the membership in the site is associated with a password that identifies the user and the site.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the electron-based service is a membership in the destination site.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the electron-based service is a membership in the site.